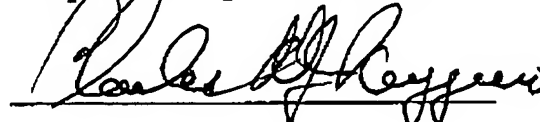


Applicants further request confirmation that the amendments to the specification requested in the Amendment mailed December 5, 2002 have in fact been entered.

Allowance of the pending claims is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



Dated: June 23, 2003

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